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Shanghai Municipal Council.



POLICE FORCE,  
(DETECTIVE BRANCH)

March 12th

1917

Sir, A rumour which is at present circulating in Shanghai in connection with the reported rupture of relations between China and Germany is to the effect that huge subterranean caverns have been constructed underneath the buildings of Melchers & Co in the French Concession, of Arnhold Karberg and Carlowitz & Co in the Central district and of the German Consulate in the Hongkew district, that these excavations have been packed with high explosives, to which trains have been laid and that if Chinese officials come into the Settlements to seek out and arrest the Germans the explosive in the above places will be fired with the result that the houses of the Settlements and that of the French will be destroyed and all the inhabitants therein whether friends or foes will perish together.

Your Obedient Servant,

*M. M. Armstrong*

Chief Detective Inspector.

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Captain Superintendent of Police.